

Nettie B. Taylor Papers 1948-1966

MS43

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections

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Summary Information

Repository	Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
Title	Nettie B. Taylor Papers
Date	1948-1966
Extent	1.3 Linear feet 3 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	The Nettie B. Taylor Papers documents her life as a librarian to improve library services to the citizens of Maryland as well as develop one of the best networks of public libraries in the State of Maryland. The Papers consists largely of term papers and notes as a student at the Johns Hopkins University as well as reports, maps, and correspondence related to Maryland libraries and the American Library Association.

Biographical/Historical note

Nettie Barcroft Taylor was born in 1914 in Brownsville, Tennessee. She has resided in Maryland from 1948 to the present time. Ms. Taylor has spent the past 40 years of her life working to improve the quality of library service to the citizens of Maryland. She has been a driving force in establishing for Maryland one of the finest networks of public libraries in the nation.

Her success in part resulted from her early experience during World War II as an Army librarian and Command Librarian for the U.S. Army in Heidelberg, Germany. As a result of her work, each county in Maryland now has a library system connected to all other county library systems, through the sharing of books and memberships. Mobile libraries now service rural areas and disabled citizens. Finally, Maryland libraries have evolved into sophisticated media centers for community use.

All of these improvements have contributed to providing Marylanders with greater educational opportunities and cultural diversity. Year after year she lobbied legislators and governors for the funding needed to sustain public libraries. During the "Taylor era," per capita state and local support increased from 10 cents to \$7.25. Her tireless efforts and tenacity changed Maryland's library system from a state with libraries scattered throughout to a state with a cooperative network of libraries. In addition, early in her career she realized the value technology would have on libraries and moved forward to apply that technology to library cataloguing through the use of the microfiche. Thus she paved the way for the modern library today, where computers guide patrons to books and information.

In 1959, Ms. Taylor served as Supervisor of Public Libraries for the State Department of Education. In 1960, in addition to serving as President of the Maryland Library Association, Ms. Taylor was named Assistant State Superintendent for Libraries and Chief, Division of Library Development and Services for the Maryland State Department of Education.

Throughout her notable career; Ms. Taylor has been recognized with numerous awards for her service to the profession. Among them are the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Library Council Outstanding Service Award, 1986; the American Library Association Joseph W Lippincott Award for Distinguished Service, 1984; the Maryland Educational Media Association, Honorary Membership, 1983, and the Maryland Library Association Distinguished Service Award, 1979.

Although Ms. Taylor retired in 1988, she continues to advocate for quality libraries through the Citizens for Maryland Libraries. Maryland citizens have benefited from Ms. Taylor's diligent pursuit of the statewide library network that now exists which allows patrons easy access to information and resources simply by visiting the nearest library.

Scope and Contents note

The Nettie B. Taylor papers are a snapshot of her career and include term papers from Johns Hopkins University; reports from Knoxville, TN, and some papers from her long-term library service in the State of Maryland.

Arrangement note

The Nettie B. Taylor Papers consists of three series as follows:

Series I: Johns Hopkins University, Term Papers and Notes, 1961-1966 Series II: Knoxville, TN, 1949-1963 Series III: Maryland State Libraries and ALA, 1948-1966

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections October, 2009

Revision Description

Entered into Archivist's Toolkit by Joan M. Wolk. September, 2015

Conditions Governing Access

Unrestricted, open by appointment.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

It is highly likely that the career of Nettie Taylor was probably left with the State Library Resource Center during her years of service to the State of Maryland.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Enoch Pratt Free Library.
- Maryland Library Association.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Lectures
- Maps
- reports
- Term papers

Occupation(s)

- Army and Command Librarian

Personal Name(s)

- Taylor, Nettie B.

Subject(s)

- Awards
- Mobile libraries
- World War, 1939-1945

Series I: Johns Hopkins University, Term Papers and Notes, 1961-1966

Collection Inventory

Series I: Johns Hopkins University, Term Papers and Notes, 1961-1966	Box	Folder
	1	1-4
	Box	Folder
JHU – American Literature notes, 1964-1966	1	1
JHU – Russian History notes, 1962-1963	1	2
JHU – History of Modern Russia term papers, 1962-1963	1	3
JHU – America’s Quest for World Order exams/notes, 1964-1966	1	4
Series II: Knoxville, TN, 1949-1963	Box	Folder
	2	5-8
	Box	Folder
Knox County, TN – Reports, maps, 1949-1962	2	5
Knoxville, TN Public Library, Annual Reports 1956-1963	2	6
Knoxville/Knox County, TN, 1959-1963	2	7
Knoxville/Knoxville Public Library, TN, 1962	2	8
Series III: Maryland State Libraries and ALA, 1948-1966	Box	Folder
	3	9-13
	Box	Folder

Series III: Maryland State Libraries and ALA, 1948-1966

MD Libraries, misc., 1950-1964	3	9
MD State Libraries, 1963-1964	3	10
MD State Libraries, Correspondence & Info., 1964	3	11
American Library Association, 1948-1964	3	12
State Department of Education, AL/CO/GA/MN – Lectures and Speeches, 1961-1966	3	13